

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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Media Contacts:

Kit Werbe

Public Information Officer

Indianapolis Department of Public Works

Office: 317.327.4669

Steve Hardiman

Public Information Officer

Indianapolis Department of Public Works

Office: 317.327.2053

National Public Works Week Offers Glimpse into DPW Life

City and neighborhood leaders gain new appreciation; Mayor makes fleet announcement

INDIANAPOLIS –The Department of Public Works (DPW) took part in National Public Works Week this week in an effort to recognize and applaud the efforts of the city's public works professionals.

This year's local theme was "Walk a Mile in My Shoes." DPW offered daily activities to city and neighborhood leaders so they could experience firsthand what it takes to keep Indianapolis running. Participants worked with road crews to repair curbs, sidewalks and patch potholes; collected trash with solid waste crews; and toured the Belmont Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Covanta Energy Plant.

The weeklong celebration also included a much anticipated announcement regarding the city's fleet. During the National Public Works Week Celebration, Mayor Ballard introduced DPW's new fleet trucks and improved preventative maintenance measures. The city plans to upgrade the department's fleet with over 40 new snow and solid waste vehicles before October of this year.

"National Public Works Week is the perfect time to thank our hard working men and women of DPW," said Mayor Ballard. "I'm pleased we could announce these changes to the fleet during the celebration and I remain committed to providing the best possible resources to help DPW get the job done better, faster and more efficiently."

This was the first year for the hands-on "Walk a Mile in My Shoes" format, and the turnout exceeded expectations. Participants expressed a newfound appreciation for DPW services.

"We've received a lot of positive feedback as a result of this week's events," said DPW Director David Sherman. "City and neighborhood leaders had a great opportunity to witness how dedicated our employees are to this city."

The American Public Works Association sponsors National Public Works Week. Instituted by the APWA as a public education campaign in 1960, National Public Works Week calls attention to the importance of public works in community life.

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